

Town Meeting

Minutes

Next Town Assembly for the Village of Arden
Monday, June 27, 2016
7:30 p.m. - Gild Hall
2119 The Highway
Arden, Delaware

*Postcard reminders and agenda will be mailed
prior to next Town Assembly meeting*

All are welcome hither

Please note:

Those attending Town Meetings are eligible to vote if they have resided in the Village of Arden six months prior to the Meeting and are 18 years of age, or older.

MOTIONS PRESENTED

12.6 Community Planning

Resolution of Recognition of Ruth Bean

Resolution Unanimously Accepted

12.8 Playground Committee

Main Motion

I move that all continuing work on the Arden Green be suspended until:

- a) No part of the mound slide project is more than 6 feet above grade and the plastic slide is no more than 30 degrees from horizontal, and all other listed specifications from the Village meeting minutes and diagrams from when the motion was passed are brought into compliance.
- b) The Village insurance underwriter has deemed the slide and plans safe for use for children less than eight years of age.

Amend Motion

Motion from 6' to 6' 8".

Amended Motion Passed

Original Motion with Amendment of 6'8".

I move that all continuing work on the Arden green be suspended until a) No part of the mound slide project is more than 6 feet 8 inches above grade and the plastic slide is no more than 30 degrees from horizontal and all other listed specifications from the Village meeting minutes and diagrams from when the motion was passed are brought into compliance. b) The Village insurance underwriter has deemed the slide and plans safe for use for children less than eight years of age.

27 Yes

32 No

Original Motion with Amendment of 6'8" was defeated

First Name	Last Name	Line #		First Name	Last Name	Line #
David	Michelson	1		Betty	O'Regan	45
Chris	Junk	2		Mark	Wood	46
Elaine	Hickey	3		Sue	Rothrock	47
Jan	Westerhouse	4		Rick	Rothrock	48
Tom	Wheeler	5		Maria	Burslem	49
Ray	Seigfried	6		Alan	Burslem	50
John	Cartier (N.C.C.C) - NV	7		Dale	Brumbaugh	51
Rob	Cameron (Ashbourne Civic Assoc) 7 th Dist.	8		Mick	Fitzharris	52
Dink	Pompper	9		Kevin	Gargan	53
Steven	Threefoot	10		Sharon	Simmons	54
Albert	Marks	11		Illegible	Gordon ?	55
Gary E	Quinton	12		Elizabeth	Varley	56
Grace E	Ressler	14		Larry	Walker	57
Mary	Murphy	15		Marianne	Cinaglia	59
Brooke	Bovard	16		David D	Claney	60
Stephen	Harcourt	17		Jane P	Claney	61
Bill	Theis	18		Barbara	Macklem	62
Mary James "Jamie"	Cutler - NV	19		Ruth	Panella	82
Rodalyn	Skinner - NV	20		Jeffrey	Steen	83
Lizzie	Broadbent	21		Irene	O'Connor	84
Marjorie	Roberts	22		Susan	Hornung	85
Hugh	Roberts	23		Leslie	Carey	86
Diane	Postell	24		Alex	del Tufo NV	87
Ed	Rohrbach	25		Keri	Will-del Tufo	88
Mike	Curtis	26		Sally	Sharp	89
Warren	Rosenkranz	27		Sam	Panella	90
Carol	Larson	28		Katrina	Streiff	91
Kate	Sayer	29		Mary	Young	92
Marvin	Sayer	30		Dela	Bryan	93
Helen "Cookie"	Ohlson	31		Pam	Politis	94
Deborah	Ricard	32		Lisa	Mullinax	95
Barbara	Henry	33		Joann	Colameco	96
Ellen	Dolmetsch	34		Jennifer	Borders	97
Sadie	Somerville	35		Walter	Borders	98
Rodney	Jester	36		Kathrine	Threefoot	99
David	Gerbec	37		Roger	Garrison	100

Laura	Wallace	38		Elizabeth	Bean	101
Ruth	Bean	39		Jim	Laurino	102
Marcia	Schefflen	40		Esther	Schmerling	103
Ron	Meick	41		Mandy L	Tocco	104
Jill	Althouse-Wood	42		Pat	Toman NV	106
Dorinda	Dove	43		Randy	Hoopes	107
Denis	O'Regan	44				

Attendees Sign In - 87 (Two Signed- in twice (line 13 (line 1) and line 50 (line 69)). Three illegible Signatures - line 55, 58 and line 105 (Print Required). Copy of Sign-In Sheet in Attachments section following minutes.

1.0 Call to Order:

Chairman, Jeffrey Politis, called meeting to order at 7:36 P.M.

Chairman handed over the meeting to Registration Committee in order to start elections.

2.0 Elections

Registration provided the following Elections instructions:

Tonight the registration committee will conduct the annual elections for standing committees and officers. The vote is by secret ballot. All residents who have lived in the Village for six months and are eighteen years or older are eligible to vote in this election. The deadline for nominations from the floor for this election was the Town Meeting on January 25th. The deadline for the nominations from Advisory Committee was the Advisory Meeting on March 7th. There are sufficient candidates for each position to be elected. We will now pass out the ballots. Voting will continue throughout the meeting for late comers. You must hand in your ballot by the end of the meeting. Please read your ballot carefully. In some instances, you may vote for one candidate. For Budget and Registration Committees you vote for three candidates. Most are electing two members. There is also space for write- in candidates. If you vote for too many candidates, your vote will be disqualified for that committee (read this sentence twice for emphasis). Votes will be counted tomorrow evening, Tuesday, March 29 at the BWVC at 7:30 PM. All are welcomed to attend. Results will be posted on the bulletin boards and the Village website on Wednesday March 30. We would appreciate volunteers to help with the count tomorrow evening.

3. 0 Minutes: January 2016 Town Assembly Minutes approved as presented. (Spelling correction: Auto should be audio)

4.0 New Residents – Roslyn Skinner

5.0 Recognition of Departed – Atul Shah, Lou Aumack and Nancy Glenn - A moment of silence.

6.00 Visitors–

Joe Daigle, Democratic Candidate for State Representative for 7th district.

Joe introduced himself, provided bio and talked about his candidacy ambitions.

Good neighbor, professional and a community activist since a student at UD. Currently Strat Analyst at Chase, Independent Financial Advisor (Exposure to people from all walks of life. He knows finances and how to make sound business plan by applying his business skills to community issues. Participates in his civic association to solve their community problems with roads, streetlights and developers).

To focus his energy solely on our district he stepped down from Newark Arts Alliance and Delaware Stonewall Democrats. He is running because his message is about community. In summary, he has financial, economic, and leadership knowledge. As well as being a volunteer has facilitated him to move, work and pass legislation. He strides to secure access to high quality education, economic opportunity, safe neighborhoods and healthy environment.

Robert Cameron, Democratic Candidate for State Representative for district 7.

Rob introduced himself and provided background and his candidacy ambitions,

Rob has lived in district for about a decade. Community Services: President of Ashbourne Hills Association for past eight years. On board of the Claymont Master Plan Development (this is development of the steel mill area and Tri State mall), American Legion member and a member of the Boys Club.

The things that he has done in the community he wants to bring to the entire district. He developed and rebuilt Ashbourne Hills Association which is one of the largest in Delaware. They created an alliance with business along the Pike in which they obtained donations for the community. He personally will fix peoples' pipes or he will find someone to fix whatever is needed in his community. Professional Background: Draftsman and Design Engineer. He designed weapons systems, nuclear submarines, designed aircraft carriers and satellites.

John Cartier Democratic County Councilman for District 8

John provided the following updates:

New Council County began its budget deliberations for Fiscal Year 2017 and in this budget there are no new taxes proposed. Experiencing vigorous transfer tax in the last few years supporting county budgets. No plans for the state budget to remove it.

County Code Report January 2016 to March 2016. There are six cases in which four have been resolved. He handed report to Town Chairman.

There have been problems obtaining Police Reporting off of the new software system. He is hoping once this is resolved they can provide previous police reporting history. Generally speaking, Arden remains a very safe community with the exception being episodic, petty crime. He requests that all secure their property and you won't be a victim of petty crime.

He provided a Grant award to Arden library for \$1,000 (applause). He has made a \$3,000 commitment to fund the library's current improvements. He will be able to honor that in July.

The Legislative branch has sponsored and passed an "Exception" that allows Arden to maintain its Vacant Properties Ordinance (#15) that Arden has adopted because it fits their local conditions and issues much better than New Castle County Ordinance. He was successful in getting it passed and signed into law. John is working with Ray (Siegfried, Chair of Community Planning Committee) for the balance of the year with future initiatives.

April 7th is Earth Day which is the watershed clean up. It starts at 8 AM and concludes at noon (followed by a luncheon) at the F & N Shopping Center. It's a great community event.

John Cartier said he takes great pride in representing Arden in County Council. He thanked the community for all the support and warmth that he received throughout the years.

7.0 Communications: Chairman, Jeffrey Politis.

Communications from the Chair. Since the last town meeting.... The last several months have been quiet, but there are a few notable things that have gone on.

1. Today is election day for the Village. I wanted to both thank those who have cast or will cast their ballot as well as those "brave" enough to be willing to serve on a committee of the Village. It is through the service of our committee members that allow the Village to run. Thank you.
2. I continue to send messages through the "email alert system". If you wish your name to be added to the email list, let me know via email at ardenchair@arden.delaware.gov
3. We have received the paperwork for mosquito control from DNREC. As we have agreed to spraying in recent years, I will sign the agreement.
4. You may have noticed a new mailbox across from the Buzz Ware Village Center. We agreed to allow Ardencroft to use 2121 The Highway as its official address. Additionally, we have agreed to allow Ardencroft to share the Village office in the Buzz to allow them to store its records. This allows Ardencroft to localize mail and records in one place consistently for the future.

5. As I have stated many times in this meeting, much of our government runs via elected committees. We are lucky that our elected officials are our neighbors and can easily be contacted if a resident of Arden has any questions or concerns. Additionally, most of our committees have regular meetings which are open. I encourage anyone to work with our elected committees to address any concerns or ideas you may have. If after working with a committee, you have not been able to resolve your concerns or move forward your ideas, then bring them to the town assembly. To get an item on the town assembly agenda, please make sure it comes through the advisory committee, which sets the agenda at its meeting on the 1st Monday of the month of the town meeting.

6. Thank you to the Budget Committee for supplying the refreshments.

7. Lastly, a reminder that this meeting is being recorded and we ask that all comments be made at the microphone.

Let's have a respectful and deliberative meeting. Thanks

So submitted

Jeffrey Politis

Questions - None

MOTION to Suspend Rules: Motion request to suspend the rules. Trustees Report is next on Agenda. Ray has requested a suspending of the rules so he can deliver his presentation.

Seconded and unanimously approved.

Ray Sieigfried, Chair of Community Planning

Community Planning has two very important sub-committees. One of those sub-committees is Memorial Gardens. We are very fortunate that Ruth has served for so many years on Memorial Garden and he has a motion that he wants to place before all. It is a recognition, (a resolution), for Ruth Bean.

Ray placed the following resolution before Town Assembly to vote on.

Resolution of Recognition to Ruth Bean

Whereas, Ruth Bean has diligently served as Memorial Garden's Representative from 1986 to 2014, twenty-nine years,

Whereas, she wrote and established the Arden Memorial Garden Rules, which governs use of the garden,

Whereas, she worked collaboratively with Community Planning Committee to administer the Garden and Civic Committee to perform maintenance mowing,

Whereas, she has volunteered countless hours managing both the application process and ground maintenance of Memorial Gardens and,

Whereas, by way of her effort she has earned the title of Steward of Memorial Gardens:

Therefore, the Committees, Officers, Trustees and Residents of Arden do hereby extend to Ruth Bean our sincere thanks and appreciation for her Stewardship of Memorial Gardens.

Adopted the 28th day of March 2016 by The Village of Arden Town Assembly.

Resolution placed before Committee as stated above

Seconded

Unanimous Consent. Standing ovation.

Ruth Expressed feelings of being overwhelmed. She said it is a privilege at a time when life can be very difficult and she is nearby and she can help people through those difficult times. It is both a practical position and it is also an emotional, it's Arden. Applause and standing ovation.

Return to Agenda

8.0 Trustee Report - Mike Curtis

Trustees Report March 28, 2016

The Trustees have several items to report tonight:

Finances:

We have copies of the quarterly financial report available tonight. The amount of 2016 Land Rent collected as of today at noon is \$554,989.63. The total to be collected is \$627,148.50. If you have any questions about your bill, please contact our assistant Julia McNeil (475-7980 or email

Trustees.of.Arden@gmail.com).

2101 Marsh Road: The Trustees are working with New Castle County to re-configure the lots so that both face the Fire Lane.

Lease Transfers:

There have been no lease transfers since the January meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Mike Curtis

Mike Curtis, Arden Trustee

Trustees Financial Report following minutes in Attachment section.

Questions - None

9.0 Treasurer Report - David Michelson

David reviewed year end drafts - statement of Financial Position as of March 24, 2016, Statement of Financial Activity as of March 24, 2016 and Special Funds as of March 24, 2016. (copy attachment section following minutes)

The Financial Reports are as of March 24 which is the end of the Fiscal Year. These are drafts that will go to the auditors. The field audit starts on April 21st so that between now and then there will be some minor adjustments. No major adjustments.

Statement of Financial Position is a statement about cash balances and where they are invested. David reviewed line items.

Statement of Financial Activity which reflects the income and expenses of the Village for the last fiscal year.

Administrative Expenses \$17,055- the balance left in the budget in the amount of \$25,669. \$15,000 was earmarked for legal fees which was not spent.

Insurance - Last year was the first fiscal year that insurance was expended on the Village line item rather than on the Trustees expense line.

\$5,000 was budgeted for BWVC but not spent.

David wanted to add a comment about Ruth. When David became Treasurer a few years back, Ruth was handling all the funds for the Memorial Garden. She kept meticulous notes (pages and pages) and together they would review all the details of her notes. Every year or so she would check David's numbers for accuracy. She was amazing and he thanked her for the years they worked together. Not only did she do a great job but she kept excellent books. Applause

Questions

Steven Threefoot - Clarification on the Capital Fund for the Village. There is a commitment to spend \$3,000 for the BWVC renovations. There is another \$ 22,000 that is committed out of that fund.

Steven just wants to make all aware that it carries over from year to year.

Treasurers Report Accepted

10.0 Advisory - Steven Threefoot

Advisory Committee Report:

The Advisory Committee met at the Buzz Ware on Monday, March 7. The Advisory Committee set the agenda for this meeting, identified likely motions to be made at this meeting, and finalized the slate for this evening's election.

In addition, the committee discussed extending an invitation to Ardencroft for use of the Buzz Ware to store office municipal records and as a permanent postal address.

As a member of the Delaware League of Local Governments, eight Ardenites attended the congressional trip on March 9. The Arden delegation was eight strong: Mike Curtis, Cookie Ohlson, Steven Threefoot, Brooke Bovard, Steve Harcourt, Leannan Harcourt-Brooke and Tiernan Harcourt-Brooke. Other municipalities from Delaware were also represented in the meetings with Senator Chris Coons and Senator Tom Carper. We were hosted by Congressman John Carney and met with his staff. We had 30 minutes or so with each of our representatives. A number of questions were asked which are not applicable to the Ardens. The delegations did strongly encourage individuals reach out to their local government or directly to their offices if anyone is interested in appointments to a service academy or has issues with VA services. In addition, they are happy to work with local communities to identify potential government grants for support.

Finally, the Advisory Committee agreed to encourage more use “Good & Welfare” at these meetings. The reason was simply to allow us to acknowledge important and not so important events in our community more, and represents a great way to end the meeting by celebrating the community.

Submitted

Steven Threefoot, Advisory Chair

Questions- None

Advisory Report Approved

11.0 Board of Assessors - Denis O'Regan

This year's Board of Assessors have met, as scheduled.

Our next meeting is 7:30PM on April 6th at the Buzz Ware Village Center, and we will be discussing multiple domiciles, and may continue discussions on Location Factors.

Future meetings will be

May 4

May 18 Public Hearing, followed by a regular BOA meeting

June 1 Public Hearing, followed by a regular BOA meeting

June 15

The Public Hearings are an opportunity to share your opinions on assessment issues. All meetings are open, and we welcome you to attend to hear the discussions.

Questions - None

Assessors Report Accepted

12.00 Committee Reports are presented in Alphabetical order

12.1 Archives – Lisa Mullinax

Our exhibition, Authors of the Arden continues. The Museum and Archives Committee organized several activities in conjunction with the exhibition:

- With the Scholars Gild, we presented “Arden Authors: Creativity in this Place.” A panel of three authors currently living in the Ardens, Cassie Lewis Slattery, Jill Althouse-Wood, and Rob Bryan, discussed their writing, and talked about the creative process.
- A team led by Linda Toman cooked a very well-attended Dinner Gild dinner featuring recipes from Arden Cookbooks.
- We hosted a presentation by graduate students from the Winterthur Museum Program in American Material Culture on Care and Conservation of books.
- And coming up on Sunday, April 24: Afternoon with the Artist. Susan Benarcik will present a talk and demonstration on making books.
- We are looking for volunteers to interview, or be interviewed for the ongoing Oral History project and/or work on digitizing the oral histories that are on tape.

We are updating our Ardens Walking Tours map, originally created for our 10th Anniversary in October 2012 and are seeking your input for updates and corrections. Send me an email at lisa@fernwoodassociates.com if you would like to get an electronic copy of the map to review. This map, which we sell at the museum, is a great guide for visitors. We also use it for organized tours such as the Osher Academy’s Hike Into History course. This month they visited us for the fifth (?) time.

We are looking into the possibility of a Delaware Humanities Forum Grant to support an upcoming project or programming. Suggested projects include organizing and digitizing our photo collection and our ACRA summer activity. We are hoping to have an intern from the University of Delaware this summer to work on our photo collection.

Arden Craft Shop Museum and Archives committee members, Sadie Somerville, Barbara Macklem and our curator Kelsey Ransick, attended the 32nd Annual Small Museum Association conference along with more than 250 other museum professionals, board members, and volunteers from a wide variety of small museums. Kelsey was a presenter for one of this year’s sessions based

on her newly published book **Free and Easy Websites: Planning and Creating a Website Using WYSIWYG Editors**.

And now that spring is finally here, we've completed the installation of interior storm windows in the gallery space and office. The Museum is back to its regular open hours of Wednesdays 7:30 to 9 p.m. and Sundays, 1 to 3 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa T Mullinax

Questions - None

Archives Report Accepted

12.2 Audit- Cookie Ohlson

Audit Committee Report, March 28, 2016

The Audit Committee met on March 23 to review the books. All was found to be in order.

Cookie Ohlson, Chair of Audit Committee

Questions – None

Audit Report Accepted

12. 3 Budget - Gary Quinton

We want to thank everyone who provided input on the refreshments this month, and we hope we have satisfied the dietary constraints for a few more meeting attendees with sugar-free delectables and a variety of different cookies and juices.

Budget committee is awaiting the final vote this evening for its vacancies, and then will reconvene to provide Assessors and Town the proposed budgets in the upcoming 2016 Town Meetings. For those who did not see the outcome of the Brandywine School District referendum held on March 23, the proposed request for school tax rate increase was rejected. We will take this information into account.

The committee will also be monitoring fiscal requests over the next few months to confirm the replenishment of the capital and maintenance fund, pending renovations for the Buzz Ware and any other requests that come to the town for this line item.

As always, the committee will be in contact with each Arden Town Committee that has a budget line item. We ask that you start considering what your committees may need in the way of budget line items for next fiscal year, so we can be as efficient as possible.

Respectfully submitted,

Gary E. Quinton

Budget Committee Chair

Questions – None

Budget Report Accepted

12.4 Buzz Ware Village Center - Steven Threefoot

BWVC Committee Report to the March 2016 Village of Arden Town Meeting

The Buzz Ware committee has a number of items to cover this evening. We will cover

- Building use and community programs
- Financial status
- Status of the Exterior Capital Project

Building Use and Community Programs: The use of the building (by our definition of slots) has been occupied ~35% of the time slots for this fiscal year. The building current use is tracked in three buckets: guests, official use, and community programs. The breakout is approximately 40% rentals, 15% official use, and 45% community events.

As a reminder, the Buzz sponsors a number of classes (i.e., Strength & Mobility twice a week and a Yoga class on Saturday morning), regular programs (i.e., Coffeehouse, Art on the Town, Group Motion), and special events. Since April 2015, we have had over 2,600 participants at more than 140 sessions.

If you have an idea for a special event or would like to organize an ongoing program, please go to our website – www.ardenbuzz.com – and submit a “Community Event” request form. The committee reviews these submissions at each standing committee meeting scheduled on the 3rd Monday of the month.

Financial: As of the end of March 12, 2016, the Buzz Ware’s operating budget is positive by slightly more than \$800. The final numbers for the Buzz Ware financial year will be reviewed by the committee and the Village Treasurer. All indications are that the Buzz will not draw on the \$5,000 “line of credit” for the operating budget in 2015/16.

External Capital Project

The Buzz Committee is composed of the five elected members, Debbi Sheiker, Toby Ridings, Randy Hoopes, Walt Borders and myself, Beverley Fleming, the building manager, Pat Toman representing Ardencroft and Terri Hansen representing Ardentown. Over the past 2 plus years, the committee has worked diligently to take input and gather options for updating the exterior of the Buzz Ware. A

meeting was held on February 15 explicitly for input on the building appearance. While the attendance was light, we did receive valuable input. During our last two standing meetings, we have approved moving forward with the work using a funding arrangement approved by this assembly. The funds will come from the Buzz Ware's renovation fund and the Village's capital fund. The External Capital Project for The Buzz has begun. The bulk of the projects work will be completed in the month to six weeks (depending on weather). The estimated expected costs remain in the range of \$40,000. This was the original estimate presented at the September 2015 Town Meeting.

Concluding Remarks:

The Buzz continues to look for new ways to support the Ardens. We encouraged the use of the Buzz by Ardencroft as a postal address as a way to build stronger support throughout the Ardens. We do ask, if you observe something in or around the facility you find of a concern, or if you simply have a suggestion for facility improvements at the Buzz Ware, please contact a committee member, or go to the Buzz Ware website under "Contact". You can make comments, submit an idea for a community event or volunteer.

Again, we want to thank all those that volunteer their time and resources to support the Buzz and the ongoing activities.

Respectively submitted,

Steven A Threefoot

Questions

Chairman commented that it has been a very long process for the Buzz financially. He expressed appreciation for the current and all previous BWVC committees for working towards getting to a point where they are today. That is, the BWVC has not taken money for operations over the course of the year. It is in a positive position. For the committee to actively manage that and to get to that point and, excuse the expression, but not to be a burden financially to the town in terms of operations is an excellent achievement. He thanked all BWVC committees present and past.

Steven: The Buzz represents the most significant source of insurance costs. We all support the Buzz at a relatively high level and it is our community center. Even though we are operating in a neutral place without the support of the Village, the Buzz wouldn't be here.

Buzz Ware Village Center Report Accepted

12.5 Civic – Co- Chairs Ed Rohrbach, Al Marks

Civic Committee Report March 28-2016

The committee continued to repave some areas of the towns crumbling roads during this quarter.

We also replaced some missing street signs, cleaned the roadside swale along St. Martin's Lane, and painted directional arrows on the road to direct traffic around the island at the intersection of Millers Road and Orleans.

We replaced some decaying wood on the benches of the Field Theater, power washed them, and had them all refinished with a sealer and stain combination. We are still working on the drainage problem though.

This spring we are planning to replace the broken section of split rail fence along the north end of Millers Road and replace the fence along the lower section of The Sweep.

Members of the committee attended a meeting of the Playground Committee to express our concerns with apparent deviations from the original representations approved by the Town Assembly. They agreed not to go further until some issues are resolved, and the installation is reviewed by the towns insurance agent.

The committee is also evaluating a proposal by Richard Cropper to remove the somewhat worn asphalt paved area of the center aisle of the Field Theater and replace it with a handicapped accessible walk from the edge of Woodland Lane to the edge of the orchestra pit area. Materials we are considering are:

- A. Concrete pavers
- B. Bricks
- C. Bluestone pavers

We believe any of these would be a substantial improvement over existing conditions.

The committee working on the Labyrinth reported as follows.

12.51 Labyrinth Update

On March 25, work began on the Labyrinth on the Arden Green. We, the Labyrinth Committee, under the guidance of the Civic Committee, had Richard Cropper grade and seed the area to create an optimal surface for use by labyrinth users of all abilities. This coming Saturday, April 2nd, we are looking for volunteers to lay the stones that will delineate the labyrinth path. Volunteers will start at 9 AM and work throughout the day as needed with light food and drink provided around lunch time. Bring shovels, trowels and work gloves. After the labyrinth is finished, Richard Cropper will grade and add reinforcement to the grass path that will lead from the wheel chair accessible curb ramp on

Woodland Lane to the entrances of the labyrinth and the Soldier and Sailor's Memorial. The project is expected to be completed within its budget and the labyrinth should be usable by late spring. We hope to have a kick-off community labyrinth walk in May.

Respectfully submitted

Edward Rohrbach

Co-Chair

Questions

Jeff Steen requested Ed to identify Civic Committee's concerns about the mound project.

It does not conform to the original design that Town Assembly approved.

Sam Panella - Materials used for the Field Theater.

Ed - It is an extension of Patros Path on the other side of the road and will be paved with some kind of paving concrete pavers, brick.

Civic Report Accepted

12.6 Community Planning – Ray Seigfried

Community Planning Committee Report to Town Assembly March 2016

FEMA's National Flood Insurance Program

At the March 26,

2012 Town meeting Beverly Barnett raised the question if Community Planning Committee could look into having Arden participate in National Flood Program. We did and three years later almost to the day I am pleased to inform everyone that Arden [as of March 11, 2016] is now a participating community in FEMA's National Flood Insurance Program. I want to thank John Cartier New Castle Councilman for all of his work navigating our effort through the county, state and Federal levels of government to obtain approval. This could not have been accomplished without him.

Now since Arden is a participating community anyone who wants this insurance must purchase it through your private insurance agent. Rates are set nationally and do not differ from company to company or agent to agent. These rates depend on many factors, which include the date and type of construction of your home, along with your building's level of risk. Flood insurance protects two types of insurable property: building and contents. The first covers your building, the latter covers your possessions; neither covers the land they occupy. In order to obtain more information and get an assessment of your leasehold go to <https://www.floodsmart.gov/floodsmart/>. This web page will provide important information for you and will guide you in talking with your insurance agent to purchase this insurance.

Results of 2015 Vacant House Ordinance

Two leaseholders registered and two had a lien placed on their house because they chose not to register.

House Bill 192, act amending Title 22 of Delaware code relating to possession of firearms.

Community Planning continues to explore implementation of this legislation. We have presented before the Arden Club to obtain their support and they unanimously approved a motion supporting this effort. Their motion requests Arden to be responsible to create post and remove any required signage during official government use of the Gild Hall.

Transformation ad hoc subcommittee

This subcommittee of Community Planning is looking for members interested in identifying transformational ideas. Our only member today is Carol Larson. We have not yet held a meeting but will over the next few months to begin to organize our effort. Look for article in the Arden Page.

Arden Stewardship for the Greens

We are currently working with Institute for Public Administration and identifying a land use attorney to help guide us in this effort. Our effort will be to establish guidelines of how our common green areas should be used.

Community Gardens

The 2016 gardening season has arrived and members of our community have started their gardens. Currently 11 plots have been assigned for use and others are expected to be used over the next month.

Memorial Gardens

Annual Arden Memorial Garden cleanup is scheduled for Saturday, April 30 beginning from 9a.m. - until 12 noon. Rain date is Sunday, May 1, 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. Bring your favorite gardening tools and wear old shoes or boots since many areas of the Garden are muddy.

Questions - None

Community Planning Report Accepted

12.7 Forest – Co- Chairs Carol Larson, Katrina Streif

Town Meeting Report 3-28-16 Forest Committee

The Annual Forest Clean-up is Saturday, April 9 this year to coincide with the Christina River Watershed Clean-up. Meet at the Buzz Ware Center at 9:00 for coffee and location assignments.

To celebrate Arbor Day and our status as a Tree City, we will be planting a tree on April 30 at 4:00 pm. Come out for Birch Beer and beverages and see the new baby tree go in. Location to be determined.

We are working with three more Boy Scouts, developing path improvement projects. Thanks to Troop 99 and the Borders family for supporting the scouts' efforts in the Arden Woods.

Progress is being made on the Surface Water Planning Grant with the land planning firm ForeSite. A topographic survey has been started and contact with Buckingham Greene neighbors is ongoing.

We will continue to work with Red Tail Restoration, the group that has been helping with invasive species removal in the woods. We will be extending the work to the area along St. Martin's Lane and along Marsh Road, where we plan to have one of the new Scout paths going in.

We have new neighbors renting 2409 Woodland Lane. We notified them of the survey and easement agreement pertaining to use of the public areas adjacent to their property. Brooke Bovard visited as well, and we hope that when their move and unpacking is complete, parking will not be an issue.

Please let us know if your use of the forest path is impeded by parked cars.

We are working with Howard Robertson on a survey of the forest border with Sunset Farms where there has been considerable dumping.

Questions None

Forest Report Accepted

MOTION to Suspend Rules

David Claney - Motion to suspend rule to allow Registration and Safety reports to be read before Playground Committee Report

Seconded Chairman- All in favor of suspending the rules to move Playground to the end of the Committee reports

Vote - Motion to Suspend Rules

41 Yes - In favor of moving Playground Committee report to end of committee reports.

24 No - Not in favor of moving Playground Committee report to end of committee reports.

Chairman will suspend rules and adjust agenda accordingly

12.8 Registration – Cecilia Vore

Elaine Hickey read the following: March 28, 2016 -Report to the Town Assembly -Registration Committee

The committee conducts the annual election of Committees and Officers tonight. Absentee Voting was in place for this election for the fifth year.

Votes will be counted on Tuesday, March 29, at the Buzz Ware Village Center at 7:30pm, following a short committee meeting. The public is invited to attend. Results will be posted on the Village website and bulletin boards. The committee needs extra help with the vote count and appreciates volunteers.

Respectfully submitted,

Elaine Hickey

Questions None

Registration Report Accepted

12.9 Safety – Brooke Bovard

Safety Committee report March 28, 2016

The Safety Committee welcomes everyone to Spring!

As we all enjoy the new growth of our woodsy environment, the Safety Committee urges everyone to keep an eye out for obstructions of signage and infringement on the rights of way. Each leasehold should permit pedestrians to be able to step off the road as they need to, without risk of being impaled by a Holly bush or hood sliding like Bo Duke. If you are currently parking in that space, you are in violation of ordinance, and may get a notice saying so. Don't make me do that.

Sign updates continue. New signage with new posts requires the go-ahead from Miss Utility, because we have been assured our insurance is not sufficient to cover us if we breach a gas main.

I trust everyone is enjoying the replaced signage as much as we are. I send particular thanks to Chris Junk, who has been shepherding replacement and installing those nifty reflectors, so we may enjoy our dark streets with less risk of being run over.

I have been in contact with both DelDOT and the state police about safety concerns where Sherwood meets Marsh and Harvey. Please observe the no turn on red sign there. The ticket you save may be your own.

Many concerns have been brought to me about the parking issues created by cars waiting for school bus pick up and drop off at Harvey and Orleans. I have spoken with parents, the bus company, and the school. We are looking to move that stop for next year, but please remind folks if you see them. They must be two wheels off, and not on the tripper. Even better, they can park in the Gild Hall lot. Help me encourage them to do so.

Al Marks led the charge on making a drainage ditch more safe for pedestrians using the crosswalk between the Gild Hall and the Museum, working with John DiGiacoma. Thank them for all they do. In conjunction with Forest, we clarified for the new tenants on the Wynn leasehold the area of their proper parking. We hope to see that issue resolved soon.

As weather warms up, pets and pedestrians dash across the roads, folks scrounge for change in other peoples' cars, and people take a more active interest in your lawn care. Let's treat each other with compassion and consideration, and look out for each other.

Brooke Bovard, for the Safety Committee

Questions

Q Sam Panella - Was wondering what the state police response times are at the intersection of Sherwood and Marsh Rd. Two signs presently posted but not clearly visible.

A Brooke spoke to Del Dot and requested a sign be hung next to the traffic light across to make it more visible. Potentially they might consider putting a sign up letting people know that it is a five-way intersection and not a four-way intersection. They referred Brooke to the state police, Troop 1, liaison in charge of traffic for state roads. He said he would send email to all troopers active in this area to keep an eye out on that intersection so he can get feedback from them. He suggested that we might want to spend some community policing money to issue tickets there. She is planning on a follow up with him in a few weeks to get him to help her write to Del Dot to say there is a problem at this intersection. They cannot have police sitting at this corner all the time. Therefore, new signage would help.

Q Steven Threefoot requested that Brooke explain what is happening at the intersection Millers Rd and Orleans Road. He pointed out there are new painted road arrows signs.

A Brooke- They are still waiting to hear back from utility so they can dig the holes. She is trying to get there ASAP. She would have preferred not to have had a mis-communications in terms of when that was going on. She would rather have had the signs first.

Q Dave Claney wants to know what poles.

A Brooke - New signage is going in because of the new traffic pattern at the intersection of Orleans & Miller Rd. New signage that informs people that the traffic pattern changed. They cannot put posts up to put the signs in (they already have the signs) but if they dig and hit a gas line, that is no good.

Q Ellen Dolmetsch- It looked real clear to me as to what we are supposed to do. Do we need signs since we have painted arrows in streets?

A Book- Yes. She is glad that you can see arrows and hopes everyone can see them. Legally we need to have signs to tell people not to drive into each other.

Q Tom Wheeler – Are we going to take a look at the other intersection?

A Brooke - She and Chris will be glad to discuss which signs are going to be installed where.

A Jeff Politis - Safety Committee has been charged with doing this job and are within their jurisdiction of the committee. Tom - if you run into somebody, no one is at fault because there are no rules.

Safety Report Accepted

12.8 Playground – Jim Laurino

Katrina read the following:

The Playground Committee report concerns the status of the new slide project. The work to construct the slide is about half done, and it does not look good. The remaining work involves grading with topsoil, covering some rocks and removing others, constructing the ADA compliant paths and fall zones, and placing sod and plants. What you can see now is simply the core of the structure; the final appearance will be much better.

We are working with the contractor, Richard Cropper, to ensure that the result is compatible with the Consumer Product Safety Commission Guidelines. The playground committee specified the dimensions and slopes, that only natural materials be used, and that trees and drainage patterns be maintained. Rocks were expected to be used, although we did not expect to see so many. We received mixed feedback, from very positive to very negative. We are working closely with Mr. Cropper now. He has agreed to make changes. Safety wise the fall zones, obstructions and protrusions, and risks of entrapment are being addressed. Some changes remain to be done, once we receive more feedback. To address two specific concerns that have been mentioned. First, the size of the mound. The estimated need for fill was 120 to 140 cu. yards, in fact 210 yards have been used, because of changes needed to provide proper drainage to protect the tree. A small additional amount of soil will still be added to cover some rocks and finish the grading to allow mowing. The second concern is about height. Remember that the site of the mound is about 3 feet lower than Cherry Lane. The slide is 6 feet high, and needs to be about a foot above the fall surface, which needs to be about 6 inches above the surrounding grade. When the position of the slide was moved to protect the tree, the starting elevation increased about 8 inches. The slide was manufactured and is installed to adhere to the CPSC

slope guidelines. I think that the larger stones on top have made it appear much larger than it actually is.

Regarding the plantings, sod will cover a large portion of the mound, so children can roll and chase under great conditions. We do not anticipate any shortfall in our budget, with one exception. We cannot afford to buy all the large shrubs we would like, If anyone has a transplantable shrub they would like to donate, we would be happy to come and get it

If you want to discuss the details of the project, you can talk to committee members, or, better, come to the next committee meeting. We welcome discussion now, to the extent allowed by the chair. We hope everyone with questions or concerns will be able to come to the next meeting, which is on Thursday, April 7, at 7:15 pm at the Buzz.

Questions

Chairman - Suggested Guidelines for Open Discussion

Chair is aware that some people are interested in presenting a motion. Some clarity is needed as to what is going on with the mound. He suggests take a few minutes to present questions about the mound (i.e., what is it going to look like, or concerns to express them now).

If there are motions to be made, he asks that we allow ten (10) minutes for open discussion prior to making motions.

OPEN DISCUSSION MOUND/SLIDE

Comments and Concerns were presented as follows:

Plan/Drawings

Working from no plan or the plan that was approved by the Assembly was ignored.

No plan presented. Further, you have, in essence no real information about what has been constructed out there.

Rudimentary drawings/plan provided to the Assembly were approved. What exists out there is far beyond what was approved by the town.

Plan needs to include detailed measurement such as: length, width, height. Most importantly plan needs elevation calculations.

Original plan did not include any rocks.

Suggests the committee should come up with a clear plan and a clear budget that they can distribute to the community so the community knows what is going on.

Jeff Steen would like to go on record as saying that “I think whatever is above the elevation shared line should be removed. The mound should be re-contoured so that the grass mound is in line with what the Assembly acknowledged and approved some time ago”. He would also suggest that some of your calculations are not correct.

Grades/Elevation/Slope

The grades are guesses instead of professionally calculated. Suggest obtaining a professional survey of the grade/elevation/rises of the area before starting work.

Elevation/Slope from Cherry Lane to the top of slide is important for both drainage flow onto Cherry Lane from mound and ADA compliance. Concern if anyone measured it?

Response: When the elevation was raised, a few inches (8) were needed. A bend in the path was added so that the distance along the path would be longer to provide for proper grading. Drainage is intended to flow down either side and does not believe drainage is an issue.

Response: Chair -The original plan with the rises is not significantly different than the plan that was turned into the state for their approval of the ADA compliance. That was approved based on the mound slightly lower but it was well within tolerances. It should still be within tolerances but we can measure it.

Height

Topographic design - He thinks we may be the only slide that is ADA approved in Delaware. When you make an ADA pathway up a grade to the top of the mound, the wider you make the pathway, the wider you make the mound that transitions further out. It was never originally going to go as far as it was until the town insisted that ADA be part of (design plan). Not a pathway to the slide but a pathway to the top of the slide. A pathway that will correct from bottom of slide and back up again. This is what the town dictated to the Playground Committee.

From observation, believes that the height of the mound is more than 6'8". So when it is changed it needs to come down a lot.

Response: Katrina – Another factor is that the level at the bottom has to be raised because there is going to be sod, a fall zone for protection. So that is going to come up. (Debbie hopes it will come up significantly). That should bring it to about 6'8".

Copies of pictures of two mound slides from the area were provided. One is the Children's House Montessori School (top of picture). This one is professionally designed. The second picture of a mound is at the Wilmington Montessori School. That one is short in stature. Both have easy access to

a child by an adult who might need to be rescued or just reach them. Both of them are out on private locations. Our mound slide is not a public location and it is not professionally designed. And this learn-as-you-go type of mentality for getting something done is not a great time factor. It is not good for the kids. People have mentioned that kids have run out onto Cherry Lane. The fact that you are going to put in bushes later, isn't keeping kids from running out. She thinks this project needs to be scoped down, scaled down, completed as soon as possible to what the people agreed to in the beginning.

Response: Children's House Montessori School slide is designed for toddlers. Children under three years old. That is why it is so small Deborah.

Rocks safety

The main concern is the safety with rocks at the top. It is believed that the rocks at the top are an invitation for children to try and climb up on them and push each other off. Suggest they should all be removed. They were not in the plan we approved. They don't belong there.

Observed on several different occasions children running with great joy down the mound into Cherry Lane. Hazard tape notwithstanding, it is an invitation to run when you are of an age when that is a fun thing to do. Response: They are planning a row of bushes between the curb and the path so they will not be able to go straight.

Believes the mound is going to be gorgeous. Clearly it has the bones and she has the faith it is going to be beautiful and an extremely fun thing to play on. She is excited about it. However, she is concerned about the pointy rocks and rocks generally. Anything you put out there kids will jump up, over and around. You will not be able to control what they do. So whatever it is we put out there, it has to be pretty safe. She thinks most people had the impression that it was mostly going to be a mound of grass and a small rock scramble and a slide. It has become a lot more because of ADA issues and etcetera. She encourages the committee to have a decision as to what is going to happen with those pointy rocks. She recommends that they be entirely removed. She would like to see at the next committee meeting a drawing of the final project.

Patros Path

Concerned about Patros Path. It is a well-used transit area on the Green. It is used for Shakespeare and for weddings at the Field Theater any number of times. Also, concerned about the proximity of the entire mound to Patros Path. We have a very special historic presence of having the Greens in our community. Will Price had a hand in that and she is concerned that the mound has taken away from

Patros Path. She believes that the path does not have the eminence it had and it deserves, given it is in honor of Frank Stevens.

Insurance

In response to a posting he put out this morning (Next Door), Mr. Thomas Hornung, the insurance underwriter, responded with comments from the risk assessment group located in Texas. There were several comments offered by Traveler's: 1) The rocks could or should be removed around slide, 2) there was a comment about the angle of slide. He believes the angle you have out there right now does not conform to what is being recommended by the underwriter. 3) There was a suggestion possibly because of the rocks on either side of the slide, that there be a tube slide. That was not envisioned. He believes this is not what the Assembly agreed to initially. There were a number of considerations given by them. He suggests that no further work occur on this project until all issues associated with insurance be resolved to the satisfaction of the Assembly

Response:

Jeff Politis - A couple points of clarity he would like to add.

- 1) The original motion presented a concept. There was no plan at the original motion. The Town Assembly gave Playground Committee authority to put a plan together based on concepts that were shown at the Town Assembly meeting.
- 2) A plan was presented at a Playground Committee meeting. An open meeting, that was announced for people to come. There were some people in this room who were there and rocks were on that plan. And there was concern that was raised at that time about the rocks.
- 3) A plan with drawings and elevations was presented to the state in order to get the grant proposal done and those plans exist.

To add further clarity, the plan that was shown, there is some deviation: the slide was turned, (as people have indicated), there were some rocks added to the top, (and probably the rocks that are there are probably more than what was in the plan). So there were adjustments to the original plan. He does want to be clear as to what was approved at the Town Assembly and what was not. So what was approved at the Town Assembly was a concept and it was given to the Playground Committee to finalize. And the Playground Committee had a final meeting with those plans and diagram shown. Jeff Politis thinks it is very important to note the insurance piece. There were concerns raised. The Civic Committee raised those concerns and the Playground Committee has actively engaged the insurance company to get their opinion. Jeff noted that the insurance company raised questions about

certain inconsistencies. They did not say that the slide, the way it is today, was uninsurable (Encourages all to read the letter that is posted on Next Door Face Book). The Playground Committee is actively working with insurance company to try to make sure that the standards are met.

Final Payments: Balance is 25% due, one payment when project is completed.

MOTION

Chairman read Warren's motion into the minutes as follows:

I move that all continuing work on the Arden Green be suspended until:

- a) No part of the mound slide project is more than 6 feet above grade and the plastic slide is no more than 30 degrees from horizontal, and all other listed specifications from the Village meeting minutes and diagrams from when the motion was passed are brought into compliance.
- b) The Village insurance underwriter has deemed the slide and plans safe for use for children less than eight years of age.

Jeff Steen Seconded Motion

Chairman Speaking to the Motion Timeline

Jeff Politis: Will allow twenty minutes or so if we need to. He believes we have had enough discussion but give twenty minutes for people speaking to and against the motion.

He opened floor

Speaking to the Motion

David Claney- Speaking to Motion

Against Motion-

The Town Assembly voted against any money for the slide from the Town. Therefore, the Playground Committee raised the funds and got matching grants to pay for it. Jeff said that was correct. David- That's a reminder to the town and that is very important to keep this in mind.

Al Marks (Co- Chair of Civic Committee)- Speaking to Motion

Against Motion

He speaks against the motion because it sounds like the playground already has it covered. And because it says 8 years old, which is sort of mid-range. It's not a range. Consumer products put out six to twelve.

Laura Wallace - Speaking to the Motion

Against Motion.

Laura says she has a lot of the same concerns that many have voiced but she thinks Katrina has given a wonderful report. The work is suspended and the decisions are going to be made April 7th as to the modifications. Anyone concerned about those modifications, can go to the meeting. She believes this motion is sabotaging efforts of our volunteers and our community doing the work that we have given them the authority to do.

Ed Rohrbach – Speaking to the Motion

Against Motion as written because he thinks that some of the specifics are essentially arbitrary.

Amend Motion

Debbie Ricard Amend motion to state 6.8 feet

Jeff Politis There is a motion to amend the current motion.

Motion from 6 feet to 6’ 8”.

Amended Motion seconded (It is a new motion. It does not have to meet the original second)

Seconded

Jeff Polittis - Being seconded. We are now speaking to the motion of 6’ 8” amendment. We are not speaking on the original motion now.

Speaking to Amended Motion

Katrina – Speaking to Amended of 6’ 8”.

The slide comes down and then it has 1 or 2 feet in which it runs out at the bottom. It must be a foot above grade for the run out for the slide and at top as low as it can be made.

Ed - That is one of the arbitrary things that I was against. He is against making it a specific number.

Chairman - Is there a call for the question on the Amendment? There is a call for question. To be clear. What you are voting on now is changing the height from 6 feet to 6’ 8”. Not voting on the main motion itself.

Amended Motion Vote:

The Ayes have it. **Motion passed** to change the height of slide from 6’ to 6’ 8”.

Chairman read approved amended motion into the minutes as follows: No part of the mound project is more than 6 ‘8” above grade.

Return to Discussion of Original Motion with Amendment of 6’8”.

Steve Threefoot - Speaking to Original Motion with Amendment

Against Motion.

The committee process is well established in open session. They brought up that they have stopped work. They intend to have an open session. Wanting specifics, Steven does not think they have enough knowledge. He would like to see the committee work with the input from everybody to get what is going to work. To make sure we are going to address the issues, concerns that were raised or that may be raised at that meeting. Not all the questions and concerns have been raised. What we are doing here, hopefully, is allow the committee to follow the process and get the slide done.

Confirmed Quorum

NEW MOTION

Warren Rosenkranz - New Motion -Move the vote to be by ballot.

Seconded

Not open for discussion. This is a simple vote.

Vote

Yes 29 to have ballot vote

No 24 Not to have a ballot vote

The Vote will be a ballot vote

Ballot Vote on Original Motion with Amendment of 6'8".

Call for the question

Reading of Original Motion with Amendment of 6'8" into the minutes.

Motion Original Motion with Amendment of 6'8" read by the Chairman - I move that all continuing work on the Arden Green be suspended until a) No part of the mound slide project is more than 6' 8" above grade and the plastic slide is no more than 30 degrees from horizontal and all other listed specifications from the Village meeting minutes and diagrams from when the motion was passed are brought into compliance. b) The Village insurance underwriter has deemed the slide and plans safe for use for children less than eight years of age.

Chairman - A yes vote means you are suspending all work on the Arden Green per the motion he just read. A no vote means you are not going to suspend work.

Ballot Voting Results for Original Motion with Amendment of 6'8".

27 Yes

32 No

The Original motion with Amendment to change to 6'8" was defeated

Q Jeff Steen- Are we able to return to the mound issue?

A Chairman – No, I do not believe so.

Q Jeff Steen- Motion - I move that no element of a completed mound slide project shall be higher in elevation than Cherry Lane.

A Steven Threefoot- **Point of Order.** We just had a vote on this basic subject and that is a second motion on the same subject. It is not appropriate at the same meeting.

A Chairman - There is a meeting of the Playground Committee on April 7th. The Playground Committee continues to ask for input and I am sure will welcome all input to make sure that the slide when it is done is safe and is close to what we have said it can be. I would encourage everybody to work with committees as I always do and I said in my other statement.

Playground Report Accepted

13.0 Old Business – None

14.0 New Business –

Advisory Retreat

Steven Threefoot forgot to include this in his Advisory Report. There will be an advisory retreat on April 30 at the BWVC. In the morning it is an open public meeting from 10 to 12. Following that there is also an appreciation lunch to all those who have been elected, either currently serving or will serve on committees. There will be a luncheon and the second half there will be discussion about legal requirements and such things associated with being on a committee

Club Path

Steven Harcourt is on Safety Committee. There was an issue raised from Safety and Civic committee about the pathway from Gild Hall to Harvey Road (Club Path). It is in poor repair. Apparently that pathway is owned by Arden Club and it was discussed at Club meeting the possibility of giving that pathway back to the town. Civic can maintain it like all the other paths.

Mike Curtis speaking for the Trustees. The Arden Club has not paid land rent for that path since long before he was a Trustee. They have already given it back but if they want to formally give it back, he thinks that would be fine

15.0 Good & Welfare

Community Support

Steven Threefoot -As you know I have been diagnosed with a disease and he has received a tremendous amount of support from the community. From all sorts of people. He really appreciates the hugs that he got and he still receives. He just wanted express his appreciation. It means an

immense amount to me and my family. (Applause)

Bloodroot tradition continues

Jennifer Borders- Some of you might remember Bernie Brockman. He lived here in the fifties through year 2000. He lived in the house we currently occupy. Every year he says it is spring and the bloodroot is blooming in the forest. So as a representative of his house and that sentiment I would like to say the bloodroot is blooming in the forest. (Applause). Mike Curtis - When I moved a few doors down from him in 1968, he showed me the Bloodroot.

Semester in Rome

Brooke - No family is as dedicated to this community for its education as I think ours is. She would like to share with us that her daughter's semester in Rome has this week included seeing the Cross lit at the Colosseum and being within arm's reach of the Pope during the Easter Service. (Applause)

Bar Mitzvah

Jeff Politis – He had the pleasure of watching his thirteen-year-old son go through his Bar Mitzvah a couple of weekends ago. I can say I was moved to tears and it was a wonderful event.

Congratulations to Jackson for that achievement.

Playground

Chairman – One last note before we adjourn. There is a lot of animosity about this topic. Although he does not like the way this vote ended up happening. I feel as though I did follow the rules. That does not entitle the Playground Committee to move on without listening to the town or listening to the opinions of the people. So with that, he highly encourages those who have opinions and want to be heard to contact the Playground Committee or to go to their meeting on April 7th. Let's make sure as a community we talk and get to the end point. Motion or no motion, at the end of the day we want to make sure that we put up and install what we want. So please make your voices heard. Thank you

Motion to adjourn

Seconded

16.0 Adjournment

Meeting Adjourned 10:22 P.M.

Respectfully submitted-

Elizabeth Resko

Secretary Town of Arden

Attachments Next Page

LOCAL MOUND SLIDE PHOTOS

Children's House Montessori School, Grubb & Naamans Rds, Wilmington, DE

*Less than 5 feet high, easy access to child by adult,
conforms to natural setting, private location, professional design*



Wilmington Montessori School, Harvey Road, Wilmington, DE

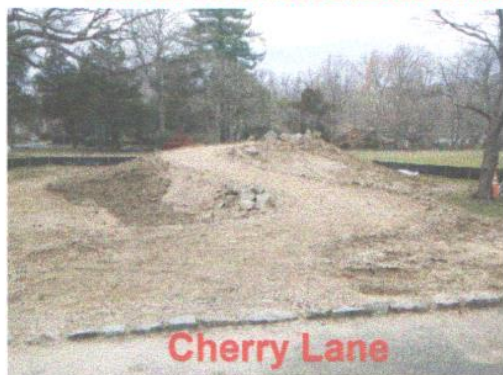
Less than 5 feet high, easy access to child by adult, natural ground covering, private location.



Arden Mound Slide, Historic Arden Green, Millers Rd & Cherry Ln, Arden, DE

*Elevation questionable, ingress/egress path directly on Cherry Ln with on-coming traffic,
boulders restrict access to child by adult, **public** location, **not** professionally designed*

DESIGN AND MATERIALS UNSAFE FOR USE BY YOUNG CHILDREN



*Submitted to Arden Town Assembly by Deborah Ricard, March 28, 2016
(Retired State of DE Elementary Teacher with 30+ years of playground supervision experience)*

ASSETS			
	Checking/Savings		
	ARDEN BUILDING & LOAN -RESERVE		\$135,566.87
	ARDEN BUILDING & LOAN - Schroeder Bequest		\$27,843.56
	M&T Bank Checking		\$24,012.66
	VANGUARD		
	Federal Money Market		\$428.08
	Short-Term Federal Fund-Schroeder Bequest		\$113,531.85
	Prime Money Market-Schroeder Bequest		\$10,631.68
	Total VANGUARD		\$124,591.61
	Total Checking/Savings		\$312,014.70
	Other Assets		
	Leasehold 2101-03 Marsh Road-Schroeder Bequest		\$91,775.00
	Land Rent Arrearages		\$14,812.96
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS			\$418,602.66
LIABILITIES			
	2015 New Castle County Taxes	paid	
	2015 Leaseholder Land Rent Rebates	paid	
	2015 Fund transfer to Village of Arden	paid	
	2015-2016 Administrative Expenses		\$2,000.00
	Total Current Liabilities		\$2,000.00
EQUITY			
	Unrestricted		\$416,602.66
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY			\$418,602.66

UNAUDITED FOR DISTRIBUTION AND DISCUSSION PURPOSES ONLY FOR ARDEN TOWN ASSEMBLY		Village of Arden Statement of Financial Position As of March 24, 2016	
Checking/Savings			
1000 - TD Bank Operating Account	97,898	General operating	
1005 - ING Direct	85,408	General operating, Renovation Funds, Memorial Garden Funds, Vacant Property Funds	
	<u>133,306</u>	Total General Operating	
1000 - TD Bank Operating Account	62,795	Buckingham Green Settlement Funds	
1005A - ING Direct	27,180	Capital Maintenance Fund	
1010 - TD Bank MSA Checking Account	996	Municipal Street Aid	
1032 - Arden Building & Loan	36,805	Schroeder Bequest	
1000 - TD Bank Operating Account	42,635	Schroeder Bequest	
1005 - ING Direct	51,195	Schroeder Bequest	
		Schroeder Bequest - initial investment \$251,000, + dividends \$3,961 - brokerage fees \$1,321, less change in market value @ 3/24/16 (4,824)	
1050 - Raymond James - net value @ 3/24/16	248,648	Schroeder Bequest	
1033 - Vanguard Money Market	9,619	Schroeder Bequest	
Total Schroeder Bequest	<u>389,392</u>	Total Schroeder Bequest	
1030 - Arden Building & Loan	1,872	Hamburger Lecture Series	
1031 - Arden Building & Loan	516	Buzzware Funds	
1500 - Sherwood Forest	859,379	Original purchase price	
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>1,525,538</u>		
LIABILITIES			
2000 - Accounts Payable & Current Liabilities	1,020		
2010 - Payroll Tax Liabilities	646		
2300 - Mortgage - AB&L Avery Property - Balance as of 12/1/15	38,466	15 yr note at 7% for \$150,000 began 4/26/04	
Total Liabilities	<u>40,132</u>		
FUND BALANCES			
Buzz Ware Renovation Fund	20,632		
Lecture Series	1,971		
J Schroeder Bequest	389,392		
Memorial Garden	11,047		
Municipal Street Aid	996		
Capital Maintenance Fund	27,130		
Village - general fund	131,448		
Vacant Dwelling Fund	19,031		
Buckingham Green Settlement Fund	62,795		
Labyrinth Fund	1,281		
Capital Assets - Net of Debt	<u>820,913</u>		
Total Equity	<u>1,485,406</u>		
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	<u>1,525,538</u>		

UNAUDITED
FOR DISTRIBUTION
AND DISCUSSION
PURPOSES ONLY
FOR ARDEN
TOWN ASSEMBLY

Village of Arden
Statement of Financial Activity
As of March 24, 2016

	<u>3/25/16 - 3/24/16</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>% to Budget</u>	
Revenue				
4000 - General Funds - Village	184,030	203,295	90.51%	
* 4100 - Donations, grants, rentals	2,840	-		
+ 4510 - Franchise Fee Receipts	16,553	15,100	109.69%	
4900 - Interest Income	481	500	96.28%	
Total Revenue	<u>203,894</u>	<u>218,895</u>	<u>93.05%</u>	
Expenses				balance left in budget
5000 - Payroll & Payroll Taxes	12,331	13,296	92.50%	965
++ 5300 - Administrative Expenses	17,055	42,724	39.92%	25,669
8000 - Committee Expenses - see detail below	69,792	74,100	94.19%	4,308
8010 - Contributions & Donations	5,830	5,950	98.16%	50
Contingency Fund	-	10,000	0.00%	10,000
8030 - Trash Service	57,181	58,850	100.50%	(511)
9000 - Debt Service	16,180	16,175	100.02%	(4)
Total Expense	<u>178,389</u>	<u>218,895</u>	<u>81.49%</u>	<u>40,506</u>
Surplus (deficit)	<u>25,295</u>	<u>-</u>		
Committee	<u>Actuals YTD</u>	<u>Budget</u>		balance left in budget
Advisory		200	0.00%	200
Archives	1,435	1,440	99.65%	5
Assessors	34	50	68.00%	16
Budget	32	75	42.68%	43
Buzz Ware - general operating support		5,000	0.00%	5,000
Buzzware renovation fund	2,000	2,000	100.00%	-
Clive	55,870	58,135	96.14%	256
Community Planning	59	1,000	0.52%	531
Forest	7,536	9,000	133.00%	(1,866)
Registration	723	200	361.55%	(523)
Safety	1,622	2,000	81.10%	378
	<u>69,792</u>	<u>74,100</u>	<u>94.19%</u>	<u>4,308</u>

* DCED Grant for Forest Committee \$2,214.50, Field Theatre Rentals \$425

+ Comcast = \$3,921, Verizon = \$5,075, Suez Water \$7,556

++ Includes insurance premiums of \$11,815

UNAUDITED
FOR DISTRIBUTION
AND DISCUSSION
PURPOSES ONLY
FOR ARDEN
TOWN ASSEMBLY

Special Village Funds													
Revenue	Budget	% to Budget	Actual	Hamburger Lecture Series 3/25/15 - 3/24/16	J. Schneider Bequest 3/25/15 - 3/24/16	Memorial Garden 3/25/15 - 3/24/16	WSA 3/25/15 - 3/24/16	Cash/Utilities Fund 3/25/15 - 3/24/16	Vacant Dwelling Fund 3/25/15 - 3/24/16	Playground Fund 3/25/15 - 3/24/16	Backingham Green Fund 3/25/15 - 3/24/16	Labyrinth Fund 3/25/15 - 3/24/16	
4100 - General Funds - Village	-	-	9,100	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
4110 - Donations	-	-	1,641	-	-	4,203	-	-	-	5,617	-	1,201	-
4160 - Program Revenue	12,420	77.72%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
4200 - misc. Arden	-	-	-	-	-	-	10,560	-	-	-	-	-	-
4400 - Rentals	20,000	59.53%	9,828	-	-	-	-	-	2,800	-	-	-	-
4510 - Vacant Property Registration Fee	-	-	-	-	5,272	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
4600 - Interest & Dividend Income	20	0.05%	14,234	471	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
8900 - Miscellaneous on Investments	-	-	-	-	303	-	10,130	-	7,000	-	-	-	1,201
Total Revenue	36,500	93.29%	31,112	471	5,575	4,203	10,130	-	7,000	5,617	-	1,201	-
Expenses													
5000 - Payroll & Payroll Taxes	19,000	84.37%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5050 - Administrative Expenses	500	91.77%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5110 - Janitorial Supplies	523	31.54%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
7220 - Utilities (gas, electric, water, telephone)	4,153	87.64%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
7300 - Licenses/Permits/Fees/Insurance/Printing	1,388	100.00%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
7500 - Repairs & Maintenance	243	12.11%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
8000 - Program Expenses	7,610	100.00%	8,891	10,310	-	-	33,290	3,300	384	8,091	-	-	-
Total Expenses	30,717	83.60%	31,591	10,310	12,704	2,601	33,290	3,300	384	8,091	-	-	-
Surplus (Deficit)	5,783	(89.1)	5,521	(9,839)	(7,129)	1,602	(15,654)	(3,000)	7,416	(2,474)	-	1,201	-
Carried forward fund balance	-	-	14,938	14,960	401,768	9,625	17,690	30,780	11,545	372	82,795	-	-
Fund balance	-	-	25,632	1,271	349,392	11,097	940	(71,020)	19,061	83	62,795	1,201	-

Date Page

March 28

SIGN IN SHEET

Thank you.

NV after your name = non-voter

PRINT?

1. David Michelson	22. Marge Roberts
2. Chris Junk	23. High Products
3. Elaine Necker	24. Diane Postell
4. JAN WESTERHOUSE	25. ED ROHRBACH
5. Tom Wheeler	26. Mike Curtis
6. [Signature]	27. Wanda Rosenkrantz
7. John Carter N.C.C. District 8	28. Carol Larson
8. BOB CAMERON ASHSBORNE CIVIC ASSOC.	29. KATE SAYER
9. DINK POMPPER	30. MARVIN SAYER
10. STEVEN THREESTAD	31. HELEN "COOKIE" OLSON
11. [Signature] ALMADE	32. Deborah Ricard
12. GARY E. QUINTON	33. [Signature] PRINT
13. DAVID A. Michelson	34. Ellen Polmetch PRINT
14. Grace E. Reese (?)	35. [Signature] PRINT
15. Mary Murphy	36. Kathy Jester
16. [Signature]	37. DAVID GEORGE
17. Stefan Hansen	38. Laura Wallace
18. Bill Thers	39. Ruth Bean
19. Mary James Cutler ("Jamie")	40. Marcia Scheflen
20. Rosalyn Skinner	41. Ron Meek
21. Myra Broadbent	42. Jill Anthony-Wood
	43. Dorinda [Signature] PRINT

TOWN ASSEMBLY VILLAGE OF ARDEN

Print Name

DATE

Print Name

44	Denis O'Regan	63
45	Betty O'Regan	64
46	Mal Wood	65
47	Sue Rothrock	66
48	Rich Rothrock	67
49	Maria Busler	68
50	all Busler	69
51	Dale Brumbaugh	70
52	Mike Edgeman	71
53	Kevin Gargan	72
54	Sharon Simmons	73
55	J. Gargan	74
56	Elizabeth Vaulen	75

Signed 2/12

Alan Busler

57 LARRY WALKER

76

58 WILLIAM (2)

77

59 Marianne Cinaglia

78

60 David Claney

79

61 Jim P. Cley

80

62 BARBARA ANNE MACKLEM

81